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Community Artistic Achievements Receive Recognition

Saint Joseph's College hosts local high school art show

By Kylie Hill
News Writer

For the last three weeks, beautiful and interesting art by area high school students has been displayed in the Core Building foyer. These pieces are the second installment of The Regional School Art Exhibitions organized by the Prairie Arts Council. These exhibitions were originally held in the Lilian Fendig Gallery at

the Carnegie Center in Rensselaer from 1993 to 1998. In 1999, The Prairie Arts Council partnered with Saint Joseph's College, and ever since they have taken place in the Core Building. Professor Bonnie Zimmer, head of the Art Department, is founder and member of the Prairie Arts Council. She and student assistant Nicole Thompson, a junior Art major, organized this event. Newton Foundation and Hillcrest

Dental in Rensselaer sponsor the event. There are two other shows; the elementary school exhibition was held in January and the middle school exhibition will take place in March after the College's spring break. Zimmer commented that these exhibitions held at the college "really connects SJC with the community."

There are a total of eight high schools representing five counties in the show: West Central High School of Pulaski Co., North White High School of White Co., Tri-County High School encompassing Jasper, White, and Benton Co., North Newton High School and South Newton High School of Newton Co., and Rensselaer Central High School and Kankakee Valley High School of Jasper Co. In total, there are 250 student artists with work displayed. Pieces are selected by the individual art teachers at the high schools; they are allotted 40 pieces. The teachers select, prepare, transport, and mount the pieces for the show.

After each show there is a closing reception. At the reception, there are refreshments, an awards ceremony, and either the College president or Dr. Blankenship gives a greeting. The closing reception for the high school show took place

Sunday beginning at 1:30 pm. The awards ceremony portion began at 2:00pm in the Shen Auditorium. At the ceremony, all students were awarded merit awards to recognize the achievement of having their work chosen. Professor Corey Crum, an art professor, juried the pieces and awarded additional merits for outstanding work as well as Awards of Excellence for work that is extremely exceptional. Awards of Excellence come with a \$250.00 scholarship to Saint Joseph's that the student can redeem if they choose to come to SJC to study art.

Zimmer stated that the idea behind the show is "to give teachers a venue to showcase art, promote the arts...a recruiting tool for the art department, and to get students on campus that otherwise wouldn't have come." Student artist Emily Turza, a junior at Tri-County High School, has art featured in the show and commented, "It's always really exciting. I love getting to share my work with the community." Zimmer also wanted to thank the Saint Joseph's students for the respect they have for the art—they are able to display all of this art with no security. She says "it speaks highly of the Christian Community we have here."



Some of the award-winning artwork featured in the art show. Photo courtesy of Kylie Hill.

Continuing a Tradition of Service

SJC's Habitat for Humanity takes annual spring break trip

By Alex Yong
News Writer

While the majority of the students and staff of Saint Joseph's College will be heading to far off locations for spring break, or remain in the confines of their hometowns, 20 students and staff members will be heading to Amarillo, Texas for the annual Habitat for Humanity trip.

"This is one of the longest domestic trips we have ever taken," program director Fred Berger said of the trip. "We have to spend an overnight on the way down."

"Amarillo has a great need for affordable housing," Berger said of the location, "and a need to serve the local immigrant population. We will also be working at a soup kitchen while we are there, along with some sightseeing."

While the Habitat for Humanity group is not unfamiliar with Texas, having gone down to Austin a few years back, many of the students, according to Berger, had wanted to venture further out west. In contrast to the Eastern

Texas city of Austin, Amarillo is in the northwest section of the state. (If one were to make a Texas shape with their hands, Amarillo is on the middle of the pointer finger.)

2014 marks the 25th anniversary of the "Collegiate Challenge" program nationally, the largest alternative spring break program in the country. SJC has been sending students on Habitat for Humanity spring break "Collegiate Challenge" trips for 21 years. Currently, the SJC chapter is in the planning stages for a 2015 international trip. In the past, the group has traveled to Tanzania, Chile, Guatemala, Macedonia, and Nicaragua to work with the world's poor,



along with annual trips over Thanksgiving break to North Carolina, Arkansas, and West Virginia.



Above: Last year's Habitat for Humanity spring break group poses in front of their house in Atlanta, GA. Top left: Two students display a log they dug up on site. Bottom left: Students working on site. Photos courtesy of Alyssa Guarnaccia.



Lending a Helping Hand to Those in Need

Students volunteer at local food pantry

By Alyssa Cook
News Writer

On Saturday, February 22, Saint Joseph's College students volunteered four hours of their morning to work at the food pantry. This service is put on at the Sorrowful Mother Parish by various organizations. Saint Joseph's College Campus Ministry provides volunteers for the food pantry on the last Saturday of every month. The food pantry works to help families who can't afford necessities like food and hygiene products.

Campus Minister and Associate Professor of Philosophy/Religion Brother Rob Reuter C.P.P.S. serves as the liaison between the parish and Saint Joseph's College. Senior Amanda Rousseau and freshman Thomas Day volunteered their time on the 22nd. Volunteers meet at the chapel at 7:00 a.m. and go to the parish in Wheatfield. Food pantry volunteers spend their morning working on an assembly line, bagging products until 11:00 a.m. and serving almost a hundred families every weekend.

The food pantry works to serve the community by providing food and other essentials to those who cannot afford to buy them. Families are given fixed amounts of products such as dry goods, meat, milk, fruit, bread, and sweets. They also have access to hygiene products like toilet paper. The main demographic of families served is the elderly and older families. However, the food pantry is open to all people in need of its service.

The families usually need paper goods. Those products aren't as readily available as food products. In response to this, Campus Ministry is planning a drive for dry products. Any donations of dry goods (hygiene products) can be given to Brother Rob Reuter, Thomas Day, or another member of Campus Ministry.

Day speaks very highly of the opportunity to serve at the food pantry with Campus Ministry. "It feels good to advance the Catholic identity of the college,"

Day said, "especially one with a long history of helping out the community."

Campus Ministry always welcomes new volunteers, who are willing to help serve. Anyone wishing to become involved with community service at the food pantry can talk to Brother Rob Reuter or anyone in Campus Ministry. It promises to be a fulfilling experience for all those involved.



Image courtesy of digitalart/FreeDigitalPhotos.net

In addition to groceries, families who visit the Sorrowful Mother Food Pantry in Wheatfield are also in need of paper products. Anyone who would like to volunteer their time or donate food or paper products should contact Br. Rob Reuter, C.P.P.S.

Students invited to participate in Campus Lenten activities

By Jessica Ruschke
Co-Editor-in-Chief

This past Wednesday marked the beginning of the Lenten season, a time for prayer, fasting, and service in the Catholic tradition. While Lent comes at a busy time in the course of the semester, it is also a time that encourages stepping back and examining relationships with God and others.

To help students find ways to observe the Lenten season if they wish, Campus Ministry offers numerous Lenten programs and services. Campus Minister Br. Tim Hemm, C.P.P.S. hosts Soup and Stations every Friday during Lent at 5 P.M. using either the stations that wrap around the Grotto or the stations inside the Chapel depending on the weather. After praying the Stations of the Cross, students are welcome to

gather in the Gasper Center for a meal of soup and bread. The first Soup and Stations will be held March 21 because campus closes for spring break the evening of March 7 through March 16. Anyone is welcome to join in this prayer regardless of whether or not you are Catholic.

For Catholics who wish to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation a service will be held on April 2. Priests will be available to hear Confessions to help prepare students for the great feast of Easter.

Other Lenten activities include a Tenebrae Service, or Service of Shadows, on April 16, the day before Holy Thursday. For more information about Lenten activities, please contact Br. Tim Hemm.

Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland C.P.P.S. During Soup and Stations students move to all the stations around the Grotto in good weather. All are invited to attend.



Career Corner

Personal Reflection on Internship Experience

By Randee Portteus
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Many college students have several on-campus jobs here and there, but did you know that you can get real-life, hands-on experience, too? I am one of the lucky students who, through working with the Saint Joseph's College Career Center, have gotten an internship that relates to my major and what I may want to begin my career in upon graduation.

I am working with Saint Joseph's College Office of Institutional Advancement and Marketing. This office produces the news releases and news stories that you see on the College's website, they create student and alumni profiles, and also write and lay out SJC's Alumni Magazine, "Contact." They often have student interns, and I was offered the opportunity to work in their office when I applied for an internship in the fall.

Carey Monroe and Jessica Chapman helped me get in contact with Christine Babick-Saqui, the Director of Integrated

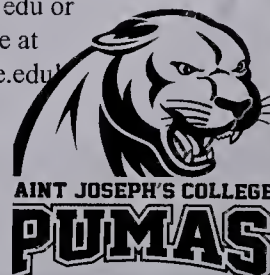
Marketing, and I began working there as an intern this semester. I write news releases and stories, interview professors, alumni, and students, and have several pieces that will go into my writing portfolio. I create content to go on the website and have learned how to upload drafts online to be checked later by one of my supervisors. All of the writing skills I have learned in the past three and a half years as an English major are being put to use. In addition, I am learning valuable skills that I will need in the work force, including technical and professional writing tips.

Upon graduating, it will be an invaluable asset to me to be able to say I have experience in this field. My resume looks much more impressive with my internship on it, and I cannot wait to be able to talk to future employers about what I've done. If you are interested in an internship, visit the Career Center on the second floor of the Halleck Student Center, or contact Carey Monroe at cmonroe@saintjoe.edu or Jessica Chapman at jbarton@saintjoe.edu. I highly recommend it!

Upcoming Puma Events!

3/8 - 3/16 Spring Break
3/21, 28 - Soup and Stations
3/18 Christian Worship Experience
3/19 Feast of St. Joseph
3/20 - 23 - Kairos 67
3/22 Admissions Puma to Puma Day
3/26 Lenten Reconciliation Service
3/29 Food Pantry visit

Want to get the word out about your event?
Email the date and name of your event to
Randee Portteus at
rpt8460@saintjoe.edu or
Jessica Ruschke at
jrt8465@saintjoe.edu



Help the HUB Workers Help You

By Patrick McElwain
Opinions Writer

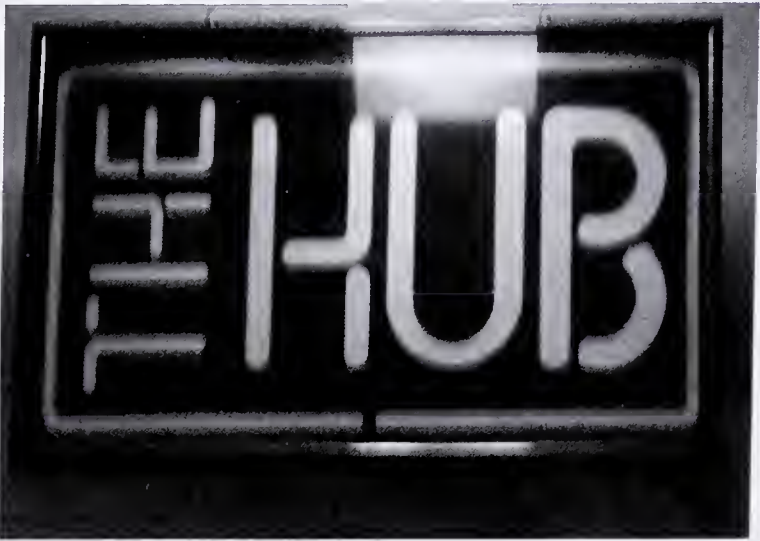
I have worked in the Hub for the past seven months, and every day it's been the same- arrive, make sandwiches, deal with complaints, do garbage, leave, repeat tomorrow. I have no problem with most of those items. Most of them. Most of that work comes with the job.

Customer complaints, however, is where I draw a line- probably one as big as the Hub's. It is my position that Hub privileges are the most abused things on campus, and that no abuser really has a right to complain about even the smallest detail. I have dealt with them all, from "There's not enough ranch" to "This line is too damn long- hurry up!" Complaints are constant, and never seem to end. I apologize to you all for times like these, but this is what you sign up for when you skip lunch or dinner to eat the supposedly "better food" from the Hub. Please remember that Meal Exchange is intended for class-goers, athletes at practice, and the like. Most of the Hub customers arrive to eat the food that arrives in the same truck from the same company that the cafeteria orders

from- the food they think is better. That's all fine with me. I'd probably do the same if I were them.

However, just because you are in the Hub and therefore out of general public's eyes, does not give you license to forget your manners. Here are a few guidelines to remember: Pick up after yourself. We are not meant to pick up after you. Don't throw your trash on the floor or leave it on the table. This is a snack bar- not a restaurant. If the can is too full, let us know. We will gladly remedy the situation. Do not be rude to us. We are working hard to give you fresh made-to-order food. We are students, just like you. We deal with the same problems, you know. Lastly, be patient. It will take a considerable amount of time usually for you to receive your ready-to-eat food. Don't stand over us impatiently. We are doing the best we can.

If you consider the three guidelines more often, you will find yourselves happier eaters. We welcome all people at all times, but don't complain about bad customer service as a bad customer.



(Above) Photo courtesy of Mike Sosnowski: Seriously people, act like people here.

A Sensitive Topic

By Johna Bottorff
Opinions Writer

There has been something bothering me, it's not the Wi-Fi and it's not the cold. It seems to me that everyone has gotten very sensitive over the month of February. As we all know, February is Black History Month and it seems that a lot has been going on in that month. I don't see where everyone is getting all this sensitivity from about black history.

My first example is in the café. They served food that African Americans "traditionally" eat, and people got upset. Why? Is it because it's a stereotype? Why are people mad? Is it because there's a stereotype, or the fact that the school served it in honor of Black History Month?

My second example is that in Core Two we are learning about the Civil War. As we all know, slavery was a big part of the Civil War. Well, one of the core lectures was different than all the other ones. Teacher

John Rahe led the lecture with two black students. They put on a performance for Core two students. People are upset because it was a white teacher leading black students. First off, did you want white kids to play the slaves, because that makes a whole lot of sense? Everyone is acting like they never learned about slavery before. Are you mad because they are going in depth because they actually want us to learn the history of slavery? If you feel that strongly don't go to Core. What is the big deal? I wasn't offended, and I'm half black. I think that it is great that our school was trying to celebrate Black History Month. I'm also glad that they want us to know about slavery. They aren't sugar coating it like they did in high school. I'm sorry if I make you upset when you read this, but grow up and stop being so sensitive. All these things aren't as big a deal everyone is making them to be.

Relating Today

By Mike Sosnowski
Opinions Editor

One thing that only gets truer as time goes on in our lives is that we are defined by our relationships. Now, I don't mean romantic relationships, though they are included in here. No, I'm referring to all relationships be it parent/child, worker/employer, friends, etc. All of them are important and all of them require two factors to work properly: faith and reconciliation.

Now I know that sounds comped and not very clear, so let me elaborate for you. Let's start with faith. By faith I refer to a faith that the other person in the relationship won't do wrong by you. That they won't hurt you or let you down and that you will do the same. Sometimes this isn't easy. After all, not everyone is worthy of trust, but this is where all relationships start. But what happens when that trust is broken?

Well this is where the second constant comes in. When trust is broken and if the relationship is meaningful, then we must take steps to reconcile. If we don't the bridge is burned and we lose something. Of course, reconciliation is hard and is sometimes seemingly impossible, but without it all our relationships would fall apart at the smallest slight, which just isn't practical in the real world.

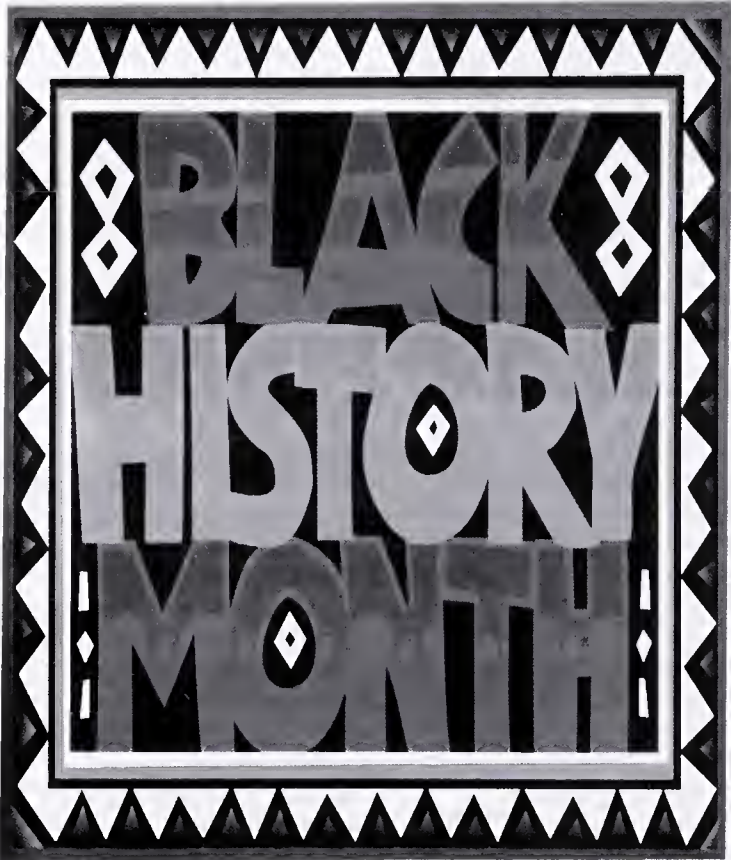
Now I can't tell you how to implement these tools. And I certainly recognize that the model might be oversimplified. I am only 22 myself and don't have all the answers (only most). But if you want to listen to me and give what I have to say a try or two well that's for you to decide. In my opinion though just knowing those two factors will help you go far in creating lasting and meaningful relationships with people regardless of who they are, where they're from, or what they did.

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph's College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.



(Above) Photo courtesy of Google Images.



(Above) Photo courtesy of Google Images: Go forth be relatedable

Slacker Students

By Ashlee Troop
Guest Writer

"Pst!" My neighbor's whispering fills my ears, and I look up distracted. His droopy eyes begging, he asks if I got the homework done. As I feel my irritation expanding in my stomach, my hands become cold and clammy. My entire body becomes rigid and focused on Jamie. I cease to see anything but his puppy-dog eyes. My mind has completely shut down and I think only of how to get out of giving him my answers. "Sorry Jamie, I didn't do it," I easily lie. No way in hell am I letting him copy off me, I think to myself and soon my heart slows down its wild reverberations against my ribs.

It annoys me to no end when slacker students think they can copy answers from me. They come to class every day, unprepared. They have not read the book and have not even started the assignment. Their faces are blank when the professor asks them a question and, from

the look of up-shot eyebrows and eyes searching frantically, it is clear that they have no idea what is going on. Then, out of a desperate attempt to not look like a complete fool, they will try to get an answer from their neighbor. These slacker students are the most frustrating part of school. They make me want to shout in aggravation when one of them tries to cheat off me. It is obvious that these students do not care and only come to class because there is nothing more interesting going on in their dorm.

If these students did care, we would be able to tell by their actions. We would see that they were actually putting effort into studying and preparing for class. But no. Every day they come into class and slack off. Every once in a while the "Beep beep" of their iPhone game will break the concentration of the class and everyone will look in the direction of the noise. "Beep beep!" How annoying!

The truth is that I don't mind

helping other students- as long as they actually deserve it. I refuse to help a lazy slacker who is just going to use me for easy answers. I did not always feel this way, and for a long time I was the student begging for answers. I would always leave my books and school-work in an overflowing locker and I never turned in any of my homework in high school. I put forth no effort and did not care.

However, after high school, I grew up. My perspective about my responsibilities changed. I began to realize that I was in charge of my life, and I chose what work ethic to have. I would be the one to decide whether to succeed or fail. When I began at Saint Joseph's College, I decided to make the most of my schooling and do my best. So when someone walks up to me with puppy-dog eyes to ask if they can copy my answers, I say "No," because I know it is not my responsibility to save them after they have chosen to fail.



Here's the quintessential slacker from the movie *Animal House*. He is played by comedy genius John Belushi. His character is hilarious, but one can see why getting asked to help someone like him day in and out in class can be annoying.



Attack on Titan is Awesome

By Cheri Broch
Guest Writer

Attack on Titan. Basically one of the greatest animes I've ever seen. Only one season is on Netflix and exists in the world right now, which breaks my little bitty heart... but you should watch anyway.

It is basically about these evil giants who look similar to people - called Titans - that are trying to destroy humanity. How you might ask? Well, they eat people. Yes, this show is very violent and not for the faint of heart. If you aren't a fan of animation violence, then do not watch this show.

The basis of this show is killing. The main character Eren (pictured above in dramatic fashion) is obsessed with killing all of the Titans since one ate his mother in front of him. His friends Misaka and Armin go with him on this journey, with plenty

of death and bloodshed, to destroy the Titans. Just imagine a lot of fight scenes with awesome music and heartbreaking moments.

I may not be making it sound as fantastic as it is: the art is awesome and the music - both in timing and type - are perfect. So, anyone who liked *Full Metal Alchemist*, a show about family and loss and alchemy, would love this show that has equally loveable characters.

It has an interesting story line and supporting characters that have actual personalities. Multi-dimensional characters, who would have thought? I digress. If you have eight hours to kill - I'd recommend killing it with this show. Kill time, watch things get killed. Sounds right to me! The one season of this show is excellent in my humble opinion. And if you don't like it, well, something is wrong with you.

Party Down: Kind of a Downer

By Kristina Hemmerling
Features Co-Editor

So who likes the show *Parks and Rec*? It's about Indiana and it's hilarious, if you don't know what I'm talking about. One actor in said show, Adam Scott, was in a show just before he began with *Parks and Rec*. It's called *Party Down*.

The show is about a catering service in California, called Party Down. All the workers are wanna-be actors, comedians, authors, or porn stars. Each character is trying to find himself or herself and start the career they've always dreamed of.

There are only two seasons of the show. It's directed by Fred Savage. You know, the cute kid from *The Wonder Years*? And Cory Matthews' (you know him, *Boy Meets World*?) real life older brother. Basically, he's awesome. And he directed this awesome show, along with some *Big Time Rush* episodes, which is awesome because although *Party Down* and *BTR* are completely

different styles of shows, I love them both even if *BTR* is about a boy band and is on Nickelodeon. If my *Legend of Korra* articles showed you nothing else, I love Nickelodeon television shows.

Party Down is down to earth, ridiculous, creepy, hilarious, and emotional on a regular basis. It's a great show. But it's pretty stinking sad, too. Adam Scott's character, Henry, has a love interest break his heart for a job. Another character, Ron, never reached his goals in life and has a drinking problem. One woman, who enters in season two, has an ex-husband who had a lot of problems and a daughter who is, well, pretty awful sometimes. And her name is Escapade. So she's obviously a brat.

Luckily though, all of this sadness is balanced with characters like Kyle and Roman. A failing actor and an author who has never been published. Roman, the author, thinks Kyle is an idiot, which he kind of is, and he has no trouble showing it. He and Kyle get into many little spats that

cause trouble, but when they get along they get into the same.

The episodes of this show vary from weddings to random parties to orgies to children's school fundraisers. To say the least, there's a variety. This show references science fiction, Ayn Rand, and a slew of other things that reach to a wide variety of people.

This show is just funny and sad and awesome. It's hopeful and heart warming and inappropriate at times, but it's a great show for college-age people like yourself. If you're looking for a new show to get into, *Party Down* is the way to go. There's parties and there's downers, but there's always something funny to keep you going on it.

My friend just happened to own both seasons of the show, which unfortunately is not on Netflix. Sorry to hype up this show and not give you an easy way to watch. I'm sure it's somewhere online though. So don't give up hope, just like Henry.



What To Do With Your Spring Break

By **Corey Dowds**
Living day to day one mental breakdown at a time

Are you worried that your mom is never going to stop calling you names because you don't do anything with your time besides trying to beat your high score in flappy bird? Well guys, I'm here to point you in the right direction. If you don't have anything planned for Spring Break this year, you're in luck. Instead of getting violent with your mom, consider the vast world you live in. You live in America, where if you can dream it you can do it. With the proper amount of hard work, cutting corners, and cheating, anything is possible. Keep that in mind as you venture into this week of exploration. Remember that every day is a way to possibly better yourself. Every day you can rest your head on your pillow knowing you're a better person than when you first lifted it off in the morning. Here are my options for Spring Break. Maybe they can help you figure out what you want.

1.) Actually establish some real character

This one is actually kind of difficult. I've started doing this more and more as time goes on. It involves a lot of thinking. It usually begins with an introspective question, like "Who am I?" But they can range

from "What do I stand for?" to "I wonder if Superman could beat Goku in a fight?" That second part is obviously a joke, because if you even think for one second that Superman could last a quarter of a second against Goku, than you're sadly mistaken. Goku can literally travel across the universe in a fraction of a second; he could poke Superman in the eyes and run away until Superman starves to death. Don't even say that Superman could just get really strong from the sun because Goku could blow that up if he wanted to. Just think about it for more than two minutes and the

conclusion is obvious. But yeah, you could do some introspecting to pass the time.

2.) Have a Mental Breakdown

Of course this sounds silly, but you need to get it out of the way. Think about it, if you live for 77 long years, than chances are you are going to have at least one. So why not use this week of solitude to improve your mental health for the future? During this time you can eat, say, and do whatever you want. Later on you can blame it on your breakdown! It's essentially a full proof system to be a full-time badass!

3.) Travel to Ukraine

Why do that, you may ask? Well a lot is going on over there, but it's getting pretty hairy. The government even set up anti-protesting laws! As of March 1st, Russian troops were approved to deploy into the area. The appeal here is that you can be a part of history! Don't you want to be that historic bro who puts a flower in a musket? Of course, now due to the advances of technology you're more than likely going to put that flower into a lightsaber handle. This of course would be fruitless, because the lightsaber would annihilate the flower, but the symbolism would still be there,

4.) Travel to Connecticut to keep Prohibition alive

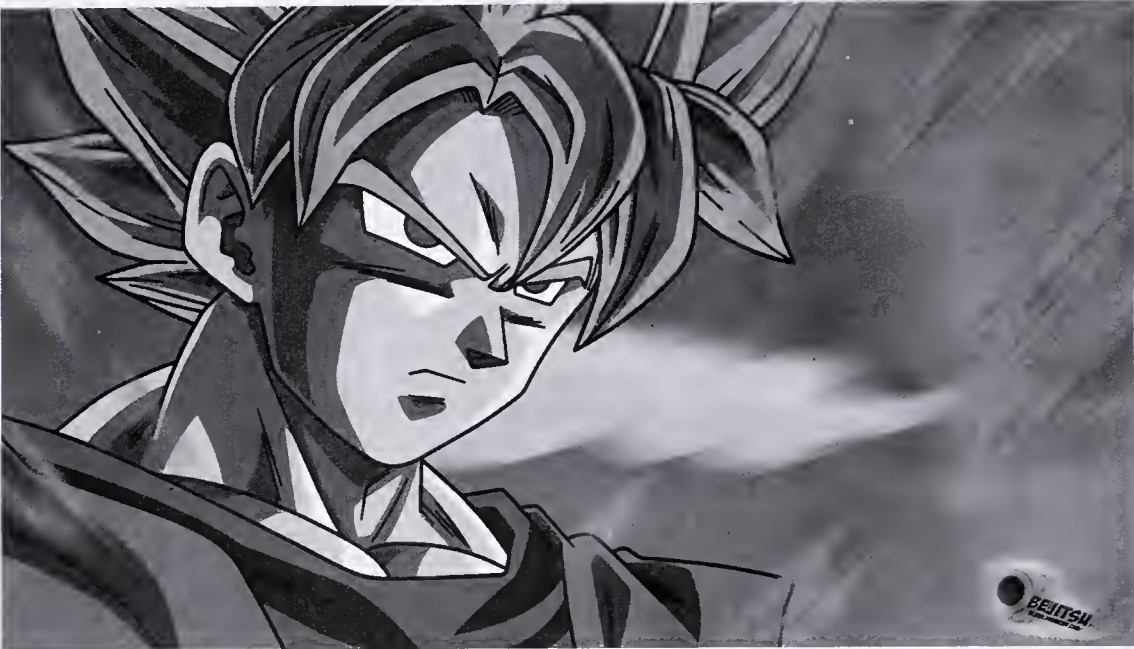
As Americans, we should be a proud but wary of parts of history. The last town in the nation is threatening to strip us of this pride and history by repealing their prohibition laws. As good Catholic students, we know that alcohol is Beelzabub's way of seducing us to the pits of hell. Therefore, this one, righteous town, Bridgewater, is the only Christian safe haven left on Earth. Not only do we have a chance to become a part of history, but we can also make this place our example to God that we have not lost our way in the darkness.

5.) Learn a skill that could help you in the future.

Don't really know how to do this, but you could ask someone else!

6.) Find mindless puppets to join your cult to sacrifice so you can create a philosopher's stone.

If you have some gullible and bored friends, luring them into your cult and using their life force to achieve ultimate power is a great way to spend your time. Not only are you set for life, but your other friends will get a laugh out of this prank! But yeah, that is the only possible stuff I could think to do on spring break.



If you want to develop real character, ask yourself some introspective questions. Not "Dragon Ball Z" related, because those are just obvious. Look at Goku . Just look at him! No grey area there.

Ting: Phone Service That Suits You

By **Alex Yong**
Features Contributor

Over the last summer, I had to get my own cell phone plan and pay for it with my own money. While I wasn't looking forward to having a sum of money being deducted from my bank account on a regularly monthly basis, I was looking forward to the feeling of independence, and having one less thing for my parents to hold over my head ("Well we pay for your cell phone bill!") when we argued. Anyone who knows me knows that I'm a pretty thrifty man, and don't like to drop more money than I have to. So, at first, I looked at a pre-paid plan like Virgin Mobile, but the lack of service outside of the coverage areas concerned me. Then, on my internet searches for a cheap, but reliable service, I ran across Ting.

Ting, a wireless service provider launched in February of 2012, features a pay-for-what-you-use payment plan for their devices. Rather than paying a flat rate for services every month (and being charged for going over a limit.), one pays to maintain their line (\$6 per) and for how much they use. Usage is separated into what Ting calls "buckets," which have the sizes of XS, S, M, L, XL. The moment one uses a minute, a megabyte of data, or

a text message, they are put into that bucket for that service. From 1-100 units of whatever, that is an extra \$3 on one's bill. From 101-500, the additional cost depends on what service is being utilized. Anything over the XL bucket is charged per megabyte/text/minute. What this means is that you only pay for what you use; if you never use your dataplan, you'll never pay for a cent of data. If you are one of those weirdo anti-texting zealots, you'll never pay for texting. And if you hate making phone calls, and never do so, you'll never pay for minutes. From my own usage, my bill tends to average about \$29 a month before taxes (which afterwards, becomes \$33.55) a month. I average about 4000 texts a month, 100-300 minutes, and less than 100 megabytes of data (I use wifi to cut costs).

"This is all well and good Alex, but how is the service?" Well, I've have had little to no problems with it. It is on the Sprint network, so if you have coverage under Sprint, you have coverage under Ting. The only dead zones I have ran into have been around Turkey Run park down state when I go to visit the wife, or areas that are REALLY out in the middle of nowhere. Here at the Joe, I've had very few problems besides an awkward spot in my room.

The one tricky part of the service is the devices. Where Ting makes their money is the sale of devices on their websites. Since their bills are cheap, they end up making up for it by the sale of their devices, which you are paying full price for, rather than discounted as you would with a contract service. A way around this, which is what I did, is by buying a used Sprint device. (has to be one from Sprint!), and activating that. Ting.com offers

used devices, as well as links to sites and individual sellers offering phones. (Two safe and reliable websites not mentioned that I used were Mobilekarma.com and fastlanewireless.com.) If you can find a reputable seller (check the seller's reviews!) eBay is also a great source, but make sure the ESN number is still good! (Contact the seller for the number.)

Overall, I have been very pleased with the service. While

setting up a used device was a little daunting, their customer service is VERY supportive and helpful, and I was set up within less than an hour. If you are interested, go to Ting.com to check it out (and even compare your monthly bills to Ting) and contact me at ayt8479@saintjoe.edu if you want some more information.

Monthly Rates	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL
Minutes (Nationwide) <i>beyond XXL are 2¢</i>	0 \$0	1- 100 \$3	101- 500 \$9	501- 1000 \$18	1001- 2000 \$35	2001- 3000 \$52
Messages (Global) <i>beyond XXL are 1¢</i>	0 \$0	1- 100 \$3	101- 1000 \$5	1001- 2000 \$8	2001- 4000 \$11	4001- 6000 \$14
Megabytes (Nationwide) <i>beyond XXL are 2 1/4¢</i>	0 \$0	1- 100 \$3	101- 500 \$13	501- 1000 \$24	1001- 2000 \$42	2001- 3000 \$60
Device Charge	How many devices do you need for your account? 1 (\$6) ▾					
Freebies	Voicemail, Picture & Video messaging, 3-way Calling, Caller ID, Tethering, Hotspot and more.					
Surcharges	Travelling Outside USA, International Calling, Directory Assistance, Regulatory Fees.					
Your monthly bill. \$33 /month + surcharges						Shop Devices

The graph above shows the more that you use your phone, the more that you pay. Conversely, if you do not use your phone, you will not have to pay for it. Pretty nifty stuff if you ask me!

Basketball Season Comes to a Close

By Jon Smith
Sports Staff Writer

The seasons have ended for the men's and women's basketball teams here at Saint Joseph's College. Both teams had many ups and downs throughout the season, but that made them more fun to watch. It was easy to tell just from an effort stand point this season that both teams are better off for the future. With all that was stacked up against the two teams it is amazing that each team still managed to show up to every game ready to compete. That's a testament to the will of the players and the impact of the new coaches on them.

First, the women who finished the season 6-20, entered their game on Thursday against the University of Indianapolis with an opportunity to still make the conference tournament if they could pull off the upset. The Lady Pumas came out to play and were led for most of the game by Jasmyne Reynolds and Kiki Lyons. However, the Greyhounds (University of Indianapolis) came out to play as well. Both teams battled back and forth during the first few minutes of the game and the Pumas found themselves



Above: Freshman DeVon Price took a lot of responsibility as a young player this year, which will help him become a team leader next year. Below: Sophomore Courtney Kvachkoff will return next year with key experience from this building season. Photos courtesy Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P. S.

down by four at 25-21. But the Greyhounds went on 21-5 run and went up 46-26 on the Pumas. In the closing seconds of the half Kiki Lyons hit a half court shot right at the buzzer to give the Pumas some momentum going into the locker before the half with a score of 46-29. In the second half the Pumas would eventually get the lead down

to nine but the Greyhounds continued their strong offensive output and continued to make shot after shot. The Pumas just were in a hole it seemed they could not crawl out of as every shot they made was answered by the Greyhounds. The Lady Pumas eventually lost to the Greyhounds 72-57. They were led in scoring by Jasmyne Reynolds and Kiki Lyons. They both had 14 points.

The women's team graduates Jasmyne Reynolds and Tonisha Sanders. Both will be sorely missed.

The men's game was hard fought as well. The men, who finished the season 4-24, were looking to end their season on good note. It would be a game that the Pumas would have to scratch and claw to pull out a win. At first it seemed that the Pumas were not going to be able to make the game close as they found themselves down big early. With a combination of not much size on the inside and the Greyhounds making some impressive perimeter shots, the Pumas went into halftime down 58-40. The second half would be like the second half for the

women as the men tried to crawl back into the game. However, just like the women, the men were in too much of a hole to come all the way back. The men eventually lost 108-100. There were several bright spots though. Tealgil Stonewall had a career high with 20 points on the night. The Pumas were led in scoring by Cameron Vines who tallied up 28 points. Also, freshman point guard David Hill had 19 points and Jon Smith had 14 points before fouling out.

The men's team graduates a few key players for the squad this year, including Jon Smith and Tealgil Stonewall.

All in all the season was good one for both teams, even though their individual records do not reflect the effort put forth. Both teams are headed in the right directions for the future. Both teams have promising young talent that will make the teams strong for years to come. It will be interesting to see how the talent develops. The Pumas can use this season as a rebuilding tool that will propel them into next year and years to come that will be truly something to watch.



Men's and Women's Tennis Improve Record

By Katie Guernsey
Sports Editor

It was a busy weekend for Puma tennis as they hosted matches both Saturday and Sunday.

On Sunday, the women started out the morning playing Maryville University, a team in the GLVC West. Maryville proved too much for the Lady Pumas, though, and the ladies fell in competition 1-8. The win came from number one singles player, senior Marie Kegley.

"It felt good to win," Kegley said, "Especially against a tough player like that. Coming out of doubles my partner Katie Guernsey and I lost 8-6 in a really good match. We played well and could have pulled it out, but didn't. As a whole I'm really proud of the way our team played. The girls stepped it up and even

though we lost 1-8 every person at every spot hung with their competition. Even though we're a little down this year and we have a really young lineup, I think this match was important because it showed that we aren't just going to give up and let experienced teams like Maryville run over us."

The men's team played next on Saturday, giving the women a bit of a break. The team ran over Calumet College of St. Joseph's, winning 9-0, easily.

"We're excited to have such a strong start to the season and we feel that we have a great opportunity this year, with our talent and determination, to succeed," said senior team leader Seth Arthur. "We hope to extend our undefeated record as long as possible and we expect to be a force in the GLVC."

This win puts the men's team

at 7-0 going into a tough Spring Break schedule.

The women's team finished Saturday off with a win against Calumet of St. Joseph's also.

They carried their positive attitudes and consistent play over from their first match to dominate Calumet.

The women returned on Sunday morning to play Kentucky Wesleyan College. Though both physically and mentally exhausted from the day before, the women's team stepped up and dominated once again.

They came out strong and aggressive in doubles, going up 3-0 before singles play. The only loss came from three singles

Seniors and #1 doubles team Marie Kegley and Katie Guernsey are excited to get their final spring season underway before graduating. Photo courtesy Tate Hickey.

freshman Clare Kost. Though she lost the match she fought hard and will use the loss to motivate her in the next match.

After this weekend the Lady

Pumas stand at 4-5.

The teams travel to Hilton Head Island, SC next week for their Spring Break TennisFest.



Upcoming Events

March 8th

Softball vs.
William-Jewell College
12 & 2:00 p.m.

March 9th

Softball vs.
Rockhurst University
12 & 2:00 p.m.

Baseball vs.
Wayne State University

March 10th

Men's & Women's Tennis
vs. Tiffin University
Hilton Head Island, SC

Baseball vs.
Ohio Dominican University

March 11th

Baseball vs.
Northwood University

Men's Tennis
vs. West Liberty University
& Chowan University
Hilton Head Island, SC

Women's Tennis
vs. Chowan University
Hilton Head Island, SC

March 12th

Baseball vs.
Minnesota State University -
Mankato

Men's and Women's Tennis
vs. Fairmount University
Hilton Head Island, SC

March 13th

Baseball vs. Wayne State College

Men's & Women's Tennis
vs. Roosevelt University
Hilton Head Island, SC

Men’s Track Eighth, Women’s Ninth At GLVC

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The Saint Joseph’s College men’s indoor track and field team finished eighth at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship on Saturday. Mike Fauser and Logan Barrett produced runner-up finishes in their respective events to earn All-GLVC honors.

The Pumas sat in sixth place after the first day of competition. Logan Barrett finished fifth in the 5,000 meters with a time of 14:48.65. Anthony Bradley highlighted the day for SJC as he finished fourth in the weight throw with a NCAA provisional mark of 51 feet, 8.5 inches.

On Saturday, Barrett took runner-up honors in the mile with a NCAA provisional time of 4:15.58. Barrett accounted for 12 team points on the week. Mike Fauser also recorded a second place finish as he recorded a time of 1:53.98 in the 800 meters.

Bradley accounted for 11 team points in the Championship as he finished third in the shot put with a NCAA provisional mark of 51 feet, 3.75 inches during day two of competition.

CJ Eikum produced a sixth place finish in the high jump with a mark of 6 feet, 1.25 inches. He also collected two points with a seventh place finish in the triple jump after posting a mark of 44 feet, .75 inches.

Lewis bettered Missouri Science and Technology to win the team title 148-111. The host University of Indianapolis finished third with 85 points. SJC recorded 36 points to finish eighth, one point behind Truman State.

The women’s team finished ninth at the championship. Samantha Nirva highlighted the weekend by posting 18 team points for SJC.

On Friday, Nirva posted a runner-up finish in the pentathlon by posting 3,393 points. Megan Marchildon of Lewis won the event with 3,627 points. Later in the day, Nirva than posted the top time in the preliminary heat of the 60 meter hurdles.

As Saturday’s finals rolled around Nirva gave the best performance of the season for last. Nirva defeated Marchildon by three hundredths of second to



claim the GLVC title in record fashion. Her time of 8.62 seconds broke Camille Edwards GLVC record set last season. Nirva still holds strong hopes of qualifying for the NCAA Championships in the coming days.

Mercedes Montgomery recorded an eighth place finish in the weight throw with a mark of 49 feet, 7.75 inches. Teammate Heath Monk then posted a fifth place finish on Saturday in the

shot put with a mark of 43 feet, 4.5 inches. Also scoring for the Pumas is Allison Zimmerle who placed in a tie for sixth in the high jump with a mark of 4 feet, 11.5 inches.

Lewis ran away with the team title by collecting 209 points. Indianapolis finished second with 120 points. Truman State debut in the GLVC Championships with a third place finish. SJC finished ninth out of 11 teams.

Coach Bill Massoels pushes both his son and athlete, junior Patrick Massoels.

Photo courtesy Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S

The Puma track and field teams will begin their outdoor season later in March.

Baseball Kicks Off Season with a 2-4 Record

By Katie Guernsey
Sports Editor

Baseball season has finally begun, with the baseball team traveling to Florence, Kentucky the past two weekends. The weekend of February 21st and 22nd, the Pumas played Cedarville University, picking up two wins and two losses. The two wins, both 7-6, were hard fought.

This past weekend Puma baseball fell to Wayne State University in a double header. The final score of the opener was 12-3, with the second game ending 12-4.

Jordan Peterson started pitching for the Pumas and was out after three innings. In this first game, Chris Hauser had a two-run double in the fourth and a one-out single in the sixth to drive in

three runs. He finished the game three for four with two doubles and three RBI’s. In the eighth the Pumas managed to score off a throwing error by Wayne State.

In game two, Charley Dennehey hit a double in the first inning to score Josh Keim. Angelo Burrage and Hauser added two runs through ground outs.

Going into the sixth inning in this second game the Pumas and Wayne State Warriors were tied at 3-3 before the Warriors scored five runs, then four more in the seventh.

Cameron Chestnut finished the game two for four with a double and an RBI. Brett Maus allowed six runs, five earned runs on five hits with three strikeouts in 5.1 innings of work.

Though it was a tough weekend for Puma baseball, they

get their chance to take revenge on Wayne State in the opener of the Russ Matt Central Florida Invitational on Spring Break.

After Spring Break the boys travel to St. Louis, before being at home on March 22nd to face GLVC team Quincy University.

Puma baseball looks forward to their spring break trip, then back to the Midwest to begin GLVC play. Photo courtesy Mike Austgen



Puma Athlete Profile:
Jasmyne Reynolds



By Victoria Lawson
Sports Staff Writer

Jasmyne Reynolds is a senior from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who recently reached her 1000th point in her SJC basketball career. She is an English Literature major.

What position do you play?
“Since I have been here,

I’ve mostly played in the post.”

When did you start playing basketball?
“I started playing in 4th grade.”

Favorite bus buddy?
“Myself and my Pillow Pet!”

Favorite part of your basketball team?
“Our locker room talks!”

Who is your favorite

teammate and why?
“Tityana! She is the only one I can say whatever to at any time and she will always have something funnier to say back.”

Biggest Pet Peeve?
“When people burp! Ugh! Just thinking about it makes me mad!”

If you were a box of cereal what would you be and why?
“I would just be the box of cereal! :)”

Do you value Wikipedia as a reliable source?
“Well, I did until I saw one of my classmates editing something on there one time.”

And lastly if you were President of SJC what would be your first action?
“To put a second register in the Hub!”

Know an athlete that deserves the spotlight? Email their name to kgt8533@saintjoe.edu



Colored Pencil Drawing by Professor Corey



Ink Pen Drawing by Gloria Leonard



Collage by Ashley Brinkman

How To Survive as an SJC English Major

By Randee Portteus

First, unwittingly take a Charley class as a freshman. Learn he hates freshman. Sit in the back of class, behind and next to two upper classmen. Hide behind them. Try to never be noticed. Accidentally impress him with one of your papers. Feel good about this until one of the upperclassmen-shields turns around and points out all the flaws in your citations. Make a mental note to do some better research on how to make citations. Screw up in the next class by panicking when he asks you a question and nearly shouting "I don't know!" as an answer. Take some small comfort in the fact that it's obvious he dislikes the small, Converse-clad boy in the front row.

Start out as an education minor. Second semester, flip out, get death stares from every eighth grader you talk to, figure out you hate them, and decide you want to be an elementary education major. Hate every class you are in, except for one: your creative writing class. Start to write like you've always wanted to and actually have someone tell you that maybe, just maybe, you could really do this with your life. Stare out the window in your American Contemporary Literature class. Spice it up by doing your contemporary poet research report on Shel Silverstein. Write it in eight hours straight. Accidentally do it so well you have to present it at the colloquium. Curse yourself. Make a badass power point presentation for it and forget to convert the file so that you have to present without it. No big deal. You're an English major. You've got this.

During the summer, realize you are an idiot and rearrange your entire schedule to accommodate more English classes. End up with eight a.m.'s every day. Every day you get up that early, die a little more inside. Fail almost every Mass Communications quiz. Why do you have to take Mass Communications? Bond with your teacher over a retreat and get really excited when he tells you that you have one of the highest grades in the class. Almost die when you come out with a B+ but shrug it off and accept you still have a 3.8 GPA. Learn that poetry isn't that awful in your poetry class, but still don't really like it. Except, of course, for Shel Silverstein.

Other than that, piss off your professors by offering shitty excuses for missing class and then letting them catch you in the cafeteria. Be an asshole. Drink a lot of coffee. Drink Jack Daniels alone. Pretend this is normal. Decide it's definitely not. Stop that. Struggle with your depression/anxiety/whatever-mood-disorder you've been diagnosed with. Wallow in your emotions and write crap while you do. Edit it and end up with something decent. Decide you don't want to be writer. Decide you don't have what it takes. Decide you do. You don't. You do. You don't. You – don't know. End up just slogging through your classes, thoroughly enjoying some things about your major of choice, and despising others.

Just go with it.

Write stories in your head. Scribble them in notebooks. Fill a notebook with more writing than you ever have before. Doodle in the scraps of your lecture handouts and think about the characters that live in your head. Wonder where your life will go. Think how grateful you are to be an English Major when you hear Bio-Chem Majors complaining about their exams. Other than the hand cramps you get from writing, your exams are usually enjoyable. Know that some people think your major is stupid. Know that it might be. Know that this is what you love. Scoff at them. After all, you're going to be a writer.



Watercolor Painting by Nicole Thomson

Sky

By Michael Sosnowski

Be as the sky,
Infinite and ever changing.
Feel the earth beneath you.
Hold the dreams of the world.
Grasp the sun and drop the rain.
Be as one as one can

The Check List

By Katie Davisson

You're gonna have to love me a lot.
The way I make fun of people,
The times when I just don't want to talk
and the times when I won't shut up.

You'll have to find my love for beanies enduring
You'll have to accept the fact that I get jealous.
And like watching tv shows with me,
Cause I'll watch yours with you.

You'll need to be a good listener,
but also good at talking and telling me what's wrong.
When you're upset you have to tell me why,
because I can't figure it out on my own.

I'll need a kiss everyday,
and an "I love you" before every goodbye.
Because goodbyes mean you're leaving
And when you leave that means you're gone
And when you're gone that means you'll forget about me.

But you can't forget about me,
because then you'll be just like everyone else.
And it's so important that you aren't.

That's it.
That's the most important thing:
You can't be like anyone else.

Graphite Drawing by Lauren Elizabeth Fernandez

